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Thailand

Rice Price - Weekly

Weekly Rice Price Update

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Report Highlights:

TH0033 Markets are closed during the Lunar New Year. The Government plans to release 370,000 tons through a basis-bidding approach in Agricultural Future Exchange of Thailand at the end of the month.

Post:

Bangkok

Market Tone

Table 1: Export Prices (FOB) for various grades of Thai rice (USD/MT), Week ending Feb. 15, 2010

Quality	Exporter Observations							Period Average	
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	CUR.	PRV.
FWR 100 B	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	986
WR 100 B	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	585
PB 100%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	598
PB 5%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	590
WR 5%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	557
WR 10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	545
WR 15%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	523
WR 25%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	497
WR 35%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
A1 SUP	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	420
A1 SPEC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Exchange rate: 33.0 baht/US.\$

Source: Average actual prices received from exporters

Markets are closed due to the Lunar New Year holiday. Business will resume mid-week with anticipated downward pressure on prices as the government plans to release 375,000 tons of white rice for export at the end of the month. The stocks will be released on a basis-bidding approach through the Agricultural Future Exchange of Thailand (AFET).

The bi-weekly benchmark prices for February 16-28, 2010 were lower for all grades of rice from the previous period, however only farmers that sell fragrant rice and white rice paddy during this period will receive compensation. So far, the price insurance scheme program has paid-out 23.6 billion baht (\$716 million) in compensation to 2.5 million farmers out of a total of 3.2 million eligible farmers. Meanwhile, the National Rice Policy Committee approved a 9.0 billion baht (\$273 million) budget to fund the price insurance scheme for second of MY 2009/10 second crop paddy with an anticipated participation of 480,000.

Table 2: Price Insurance Scheme for MY 2009/2010 rice crop

	Rice paddy				
	Fragrant rice (Homm ali)	Provincial fragrant rice	Pathum fragrant rice	Glutinous rice	White rice
1. Eligible tonnage (ton/household) ^{a/}	14	16	25	16	25
2. Insured prices (Baht/ton) ^{a/}	15,300	14,300	10,000	9,500	10,000
3. Benchmark prices (Baht/ton) ^{b/}					
Dec. 16-31, 2009	14,895	14,503	12,072	11,533	10,212
Jan. 1-15, 2010	15,369	14,757	12,198	11,706	10,072
Jan. 16-31, 2010	15,073	14,548	12,076	11,486	10,164
Feb. 1-15, 2010	14,915	14,359	12,004	11,511	9,993
Feb. 16-28, 2010	14,796	14,148	11,824	11,207	9,886
4. Compensation (1-2), (Baht/ton)					
Dec. 16-31, 2009	405	-	-	-	-
Jan. 1-15, 2010	-	-	-	-	-
Jan. 16-31, 2010	227	-	-	-	-
Feb. 1-15, 2010	385	-	-	-	7
Feb. 16-28, 2010	504	152	-	-	114
5. Market prices (Baht/ton)					
Dec. 16-31	15,250	14,000	12,200	11,800	10,310
Jan. 1-15	15,250	14,000	11,850	11,775	9,350
Jan. 16-31	15,250	14,000	11,850	11,750	10,250
Feb. 1-15	15,025	14,000	11,750	11,800	10,250
Feb. 16-28 ^{c/}	15,025	14,000	11,750	11,750	10,250

Note:

^{a/} Cabinet approval on Sep. 22, 2009^{b/} The benchmark prices will be published twice a month on the 1st and 16th, based on average historical wholesale prices of the last 15 days in Bangkok. These prices are set by the Subcommittee on Benchmark Price Determination, chaired by the Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Commerce.^{c/} As of Feb. 16, 2010

Rice Export Update

Unofficial rice exports (excluding fragrant rice) for February 8-14, 2010 totaled 121,947, up 23,411 tons from the previous week, and up 6,387 tons from the four-week moving average of 115,559 tons. Exports of white rice and parboiled rice during January 1 – February 14, 2010 totaled 746,386 tons, up 14.1 percent from 654,147 tons in the previous year.

According to the Department of Foreign trade, Ministry of Commerce, total rice exports (including fragrant rice) during Jan. 1 – Feb. 5, 2010 amounted to 830,364 tons, up 10.1 percent from 754,078 tons in the previous year.

Table 3: Weekly rice exports (excluding fragrant rice)

WEEK ENDING	QUANTITY	4 WK AVG	YEAR TO DATE	YEAR AGO	YEAR TO DATE AS % OF LAST YEAR
	(MT)	(MT)	(TMT)	(TMT)	(%)
Nov 29	75,104	98,789	5,426	7,101	-23.6
Dec 6	80,501	95,418	5,506	7,170	-23.2
Dec 13	116,586	96,490	5,623	7,258	-22.5
Dec 20	120,454	98,161	5,743	7,348	-21.8
Dec 27	126,910	111,113	5,870	7,453	-21.2
Dec 31, 2009	25,812	97,440	5,900	7,470	-21.1
Jan 3, 2010	1,000	-	1	3	-68.0
Jan 10	111,299	-	112	85	32.6
Jan 17	171,849	-	284	211	34.8
Jan 24	137,308	105,364	422	353	19.5
Jan 31	104,448	131,226	526	428	22.9
Feb 7	98,535	128,035	624	545	14.7
Feb 14	121,947	115,559	746	654	14.1

Note on data: Export figures since March 22, 2002, do not include fragrant rice. The authority to report fragrant rice exports was moved from the Thai Board of Trade to the Ministry of Commerce's Office of Commodity Standards, which does not release official fragrant rice export data. FAS/BKK will report only official export numbers from the Board of Trade for non-fragrant and from the Office of Commodity Standards for fragrant rice when available, but the reader should bear in mind the difference between the data

Source: Board of Trade of Thailand

Table 4: Weekly private registered rice export sales

Movement (MT)	Jan. 25-29	Feb. 1-5	Feb. 8-12 (Preliminary)
Weekly sales	57,828	96,925	170,741
4 week sum	571,291	485,880	497,907
4 week mov. avg.	142,823	121,470	124,477
Total weekly sales	571,291	668,216	838,957

End of report.